6.1 The Basics of File Systems



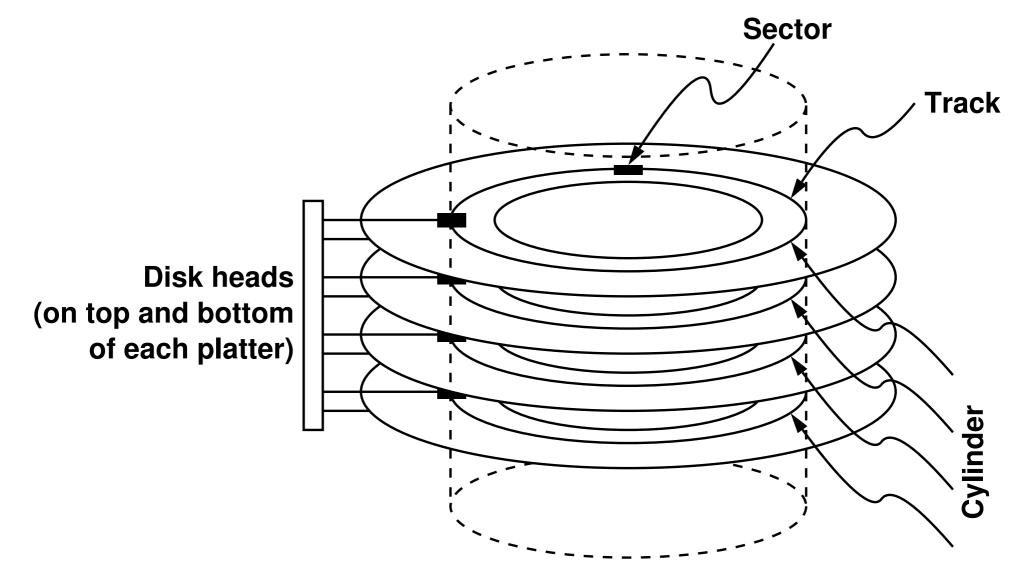




Improving Performance



Disk Architecture





Smallest addressable unit is a sector

disk address = (head/surface#, cylinder/track#, sector#)



Rhinopias Disk Drive

Rotation speed	10,000 RPM
Number of surfaces	8
Sector size	512 bytes
Sectors/track	500-1000; 750 average
Tracks/surface	100,000
Storage capacity	307.2 billion bytes
Average seek time	4 milliseconds
One-track seek time	.2 milliseconds
Maximum seek time	10 milliseconds



Disk access time: time to copy a sector from disk to controller

- access time = seek time + rotational latency + data transfer time
 - o some people would use the term "response time" to mean "access time", but we should avoid the use of the term "response time"

S5FS on Rhinopias (A Marketing Disaster ...)



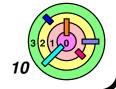
Rhinopias's maximum transfer speed?

63.9 MB/sec



S5FS's average speed on Rhinopias?

- average seek time:
 - < 4 milliseconds (say 2)</p>
- average rotational latency:
 - ~3 milliseconds
- per-sector transfer time:
 - negligible
- time/sector: 5 milliseconds
- effective transfer speed: 102.4 KB/sec (.16% of maximum)



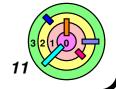
6.1 The Basics of File Systems





Problems with S5FS

> Improving Performance



What to Do About It?



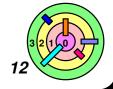
Hardware

- employ pre-fetch buffer in disk controller
 - filled by hardware with what's underneath disk head
 - helps reads a bit; doesn't help writes



Software

- better on-disk data structures
 - increase block size
 - minimize seek time
 - reduce rotational latency

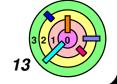


FFS

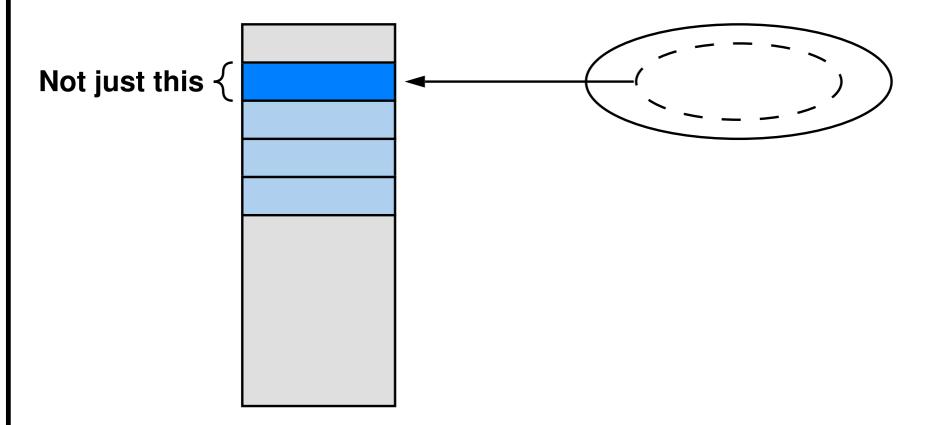
Better on-disk organization

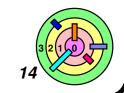
Longer component names in directories

Retains disk map of S5FS

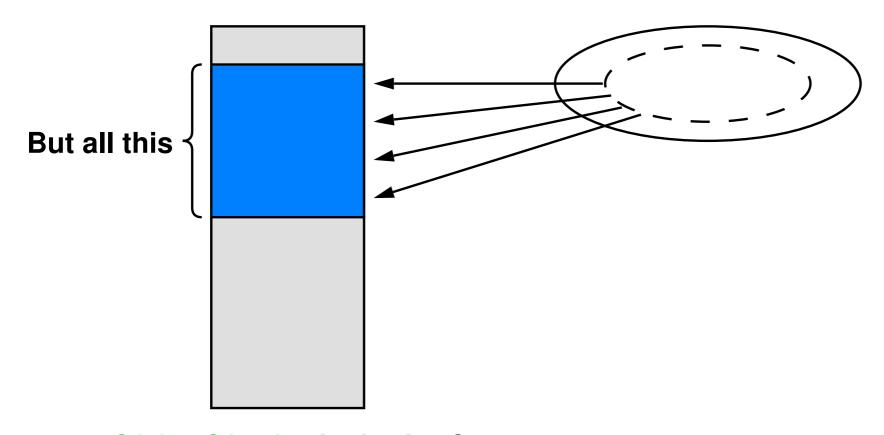


Larger Block Size





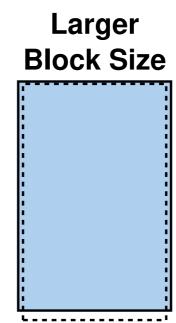
Larger Block Size



- O(n) = O(n/4), why bother?
 - reading *consecutive sectors* is faster
 - much better than the hardware solution of pre-fetching
 - to improve file system performance, you need to reduce the number of times you go to the disk

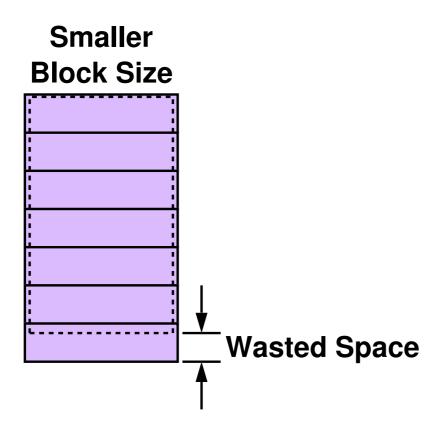
The Down Side ...

Smaller Block Size

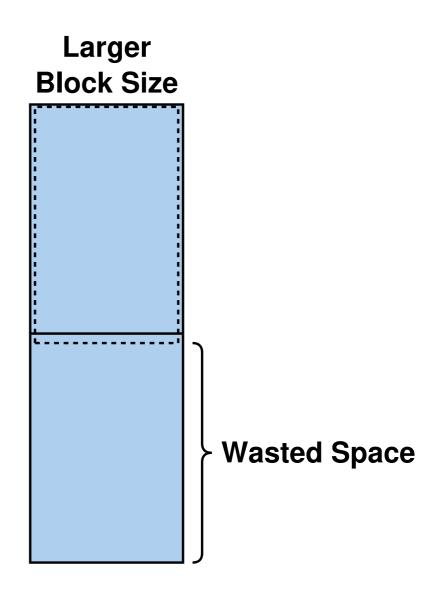




The Down Side ...



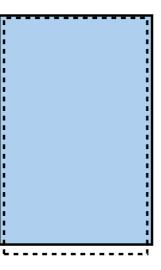
internal fragmentation

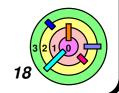


even worse internal fragmentation

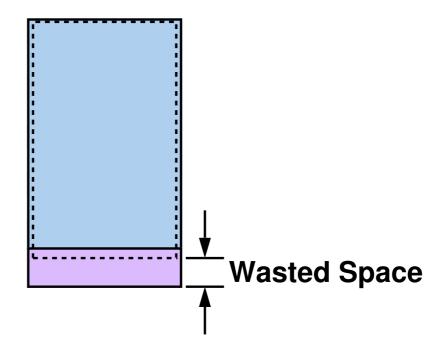


Two Block Sizes ...





Two Block Sizes ...



- e.g., 16KB blocks and 1KB fragments
- best of both worlds
 - but there is no "free lunch", so what's the cost?



Rules



- File-system blocks may be split into fragments that can be independently assigned to files
- fragments assigned to a file must be contiguous and in order



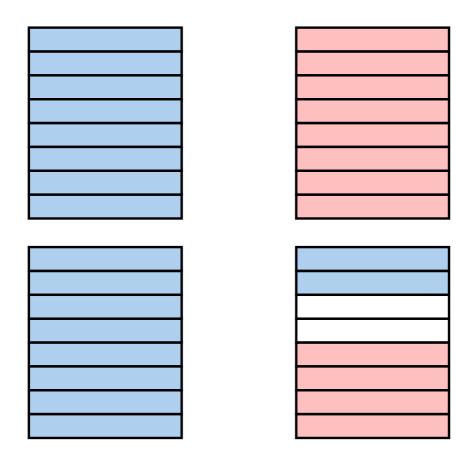
The number of fragments per block (1, 2, 4, or 8) is fixed for each file system



Allocation in fragments may only be done on what would be the last block of a file, and only for small files



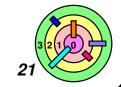
Use of Fragments (1)



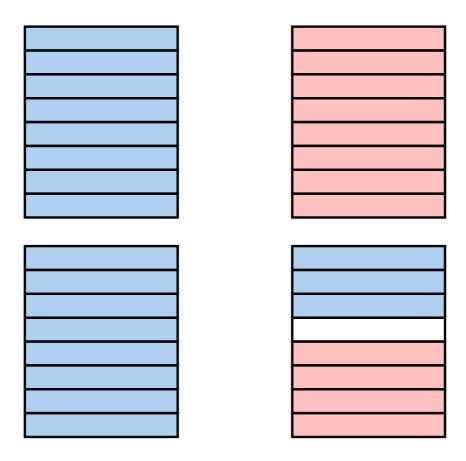
can save even more space



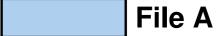




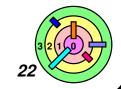
Use of Fragments (2)



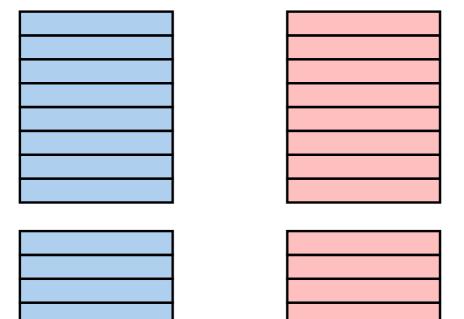
A can grow by 2 segments







Use of Fragments (3)



File A

File B



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Minimizing Seek Time

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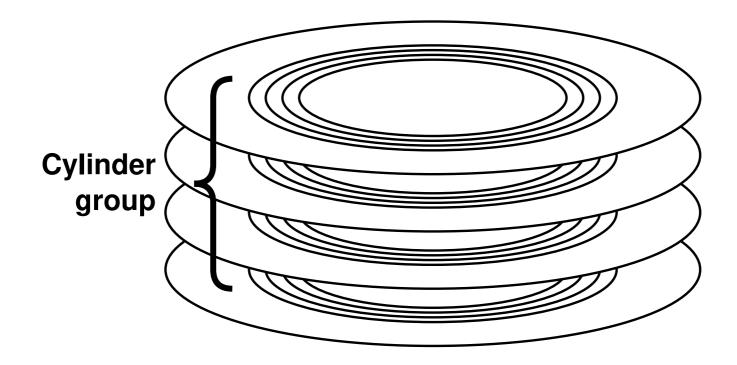
Keep related things close to one another



Separate unrelated things



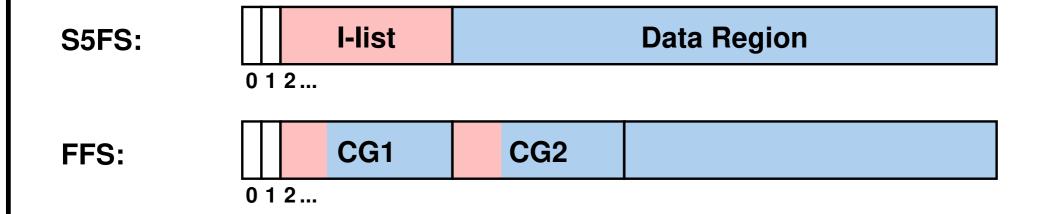
Cylinder Groups



recall that seeking to the next cyliner/track is much faster than seeking to a random track



Minimizing Seek Time

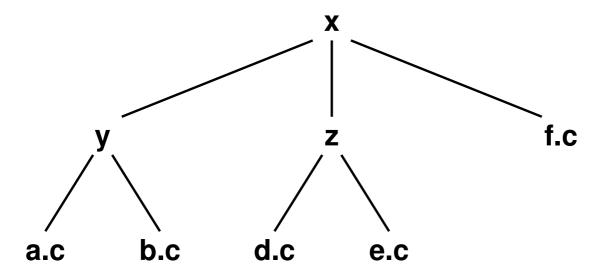




Complication: which cylinder group to create a file?

- the practice: use heuristics and not go for the "optimal solution"
 - attempt to put new inodes in the same cylinder group as their directories
 - put inodes for new directories in cylinder groups with "lots" of free space
 - put the beginning of a file (first 10KB, i.e., direct blocks) in the inode's cylinder group
 - put additional portions of the file (each 2MB) in cylinder groups with "lots" of free space

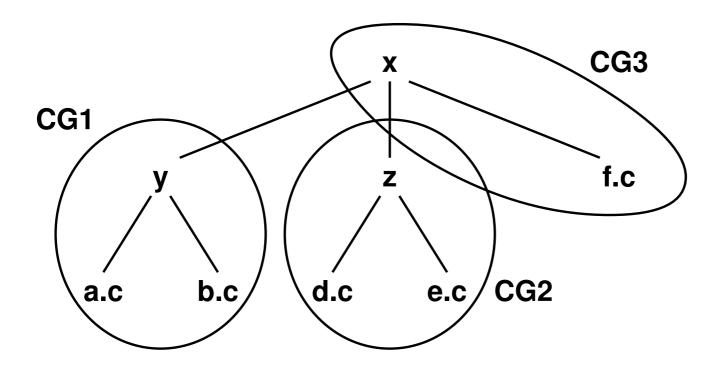
Locality Of File Access



- if access "d.c", likely to access "e.c"



Locality Of File Access



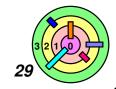
if access "d.c", likely to access "e.c"



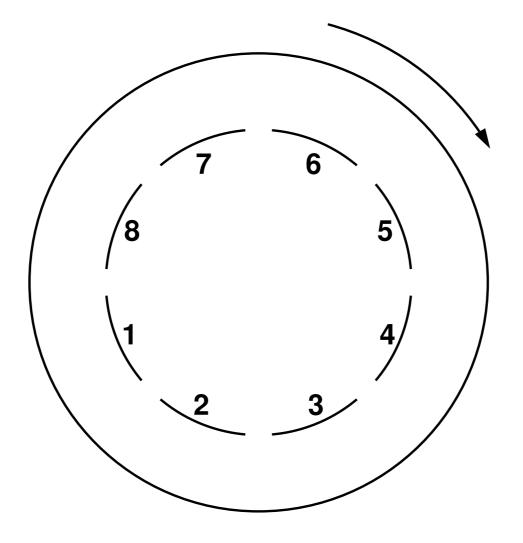
How Are We Doing? (Part 1)

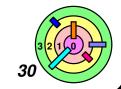


- Configure Rhinopias with 20 cylinders per group
- 2-MB file fits entirely within one cylinder group
- average seek time within cylinder group is ~.3 milliseconds
- average rotational delay still 3 milliseconds
- .12 milliseconds required for disk head to pass over 8KB block
- 3.42 milliseconds for each block
- 2.4 million bytes/second average effective transfer speed
- factor of 20 improvement
- **■** 3.7% of maximum possible



Minimizing Latency





Numbers



Rhinopias spins at 10,000 RPM

6 milliseconds/revolution



100 microseconds required to service disk-completion interrupt and start next operation

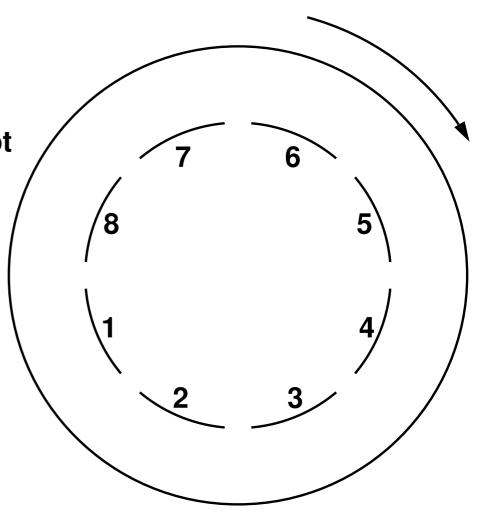
typical of early 1980s

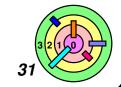


Each block takes
120 microseconds to traverse
disk head

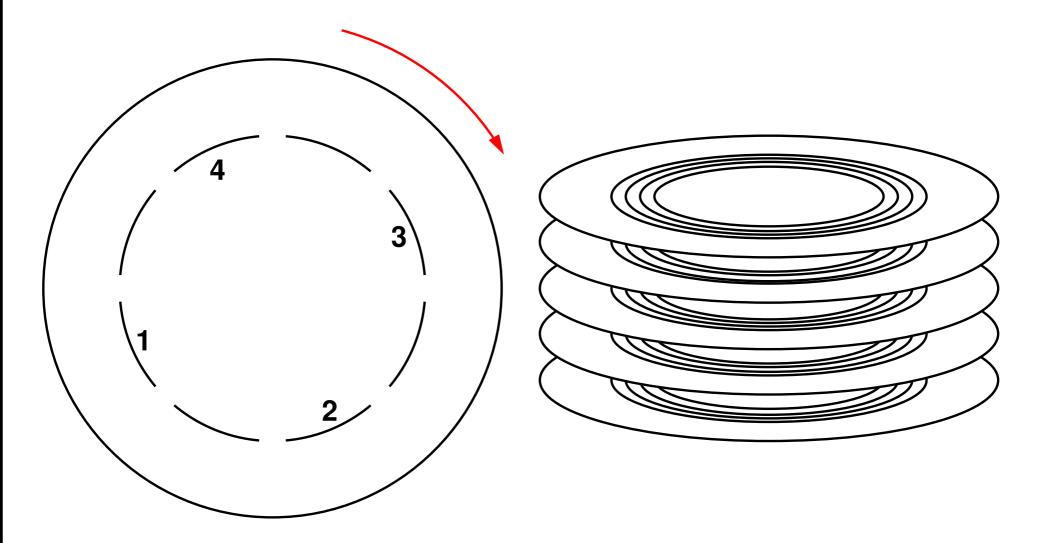


Reading successive blocks is expensive!



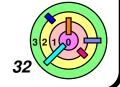


Minimizing Latency





Block interleaving



How're We Doing Now? (Part 2)



Time to read successive blocks (two-way interleaving):

- after request for second block is issued, must wait 20 microseconds for the beginning of the block to rotate under disk head
- factor of 15 improvement
 - together with other improvements, overall, a factor of 300 improvement

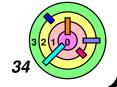


How're We Doing Now? (Altogether)



Same setup as before

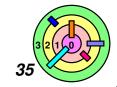
- 2-MB file within one cylinder group
- actually fits in one cylinder
- block interleaving employed: every other block is skipped
- .3-millisecond seek to that cylinder
- 3-millisecond rotational delay for first block
- 50 blocks/track, but 25 read in each revolution
- 10.24 revolutions required to read all of file
- 32.4 MB/second (50% of maximum possible)



Further Improvements?



- FFS without block interleaving
 - factor of 20 improvement
 - reached 3.8% of capacity
- FFS with block interleaving
 - another factor of 15 improvement
 - reached 50% of capacity
- Can we reach 100% of capacity?



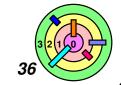
Larger Transfer Units



too much wasted space

Allocate in blocks, but group them together

transfer many at once





Block Clustering



Allocate space in blocks, eight at a time



Linux's Ext2 (an FFS clone):

- allocate eight blocks at a time
- extra space is available to other files if there is a shortage of space



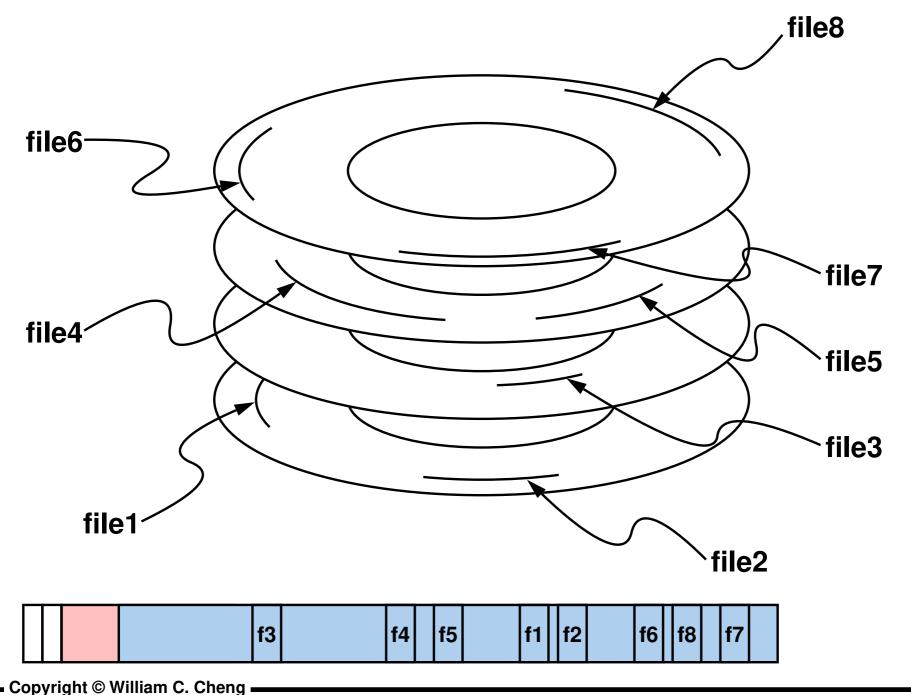
FFS on Solaris (~1990)

- delay disk-space allocation until:
 - 8 blocks are ready to be written
 - or the file is closed

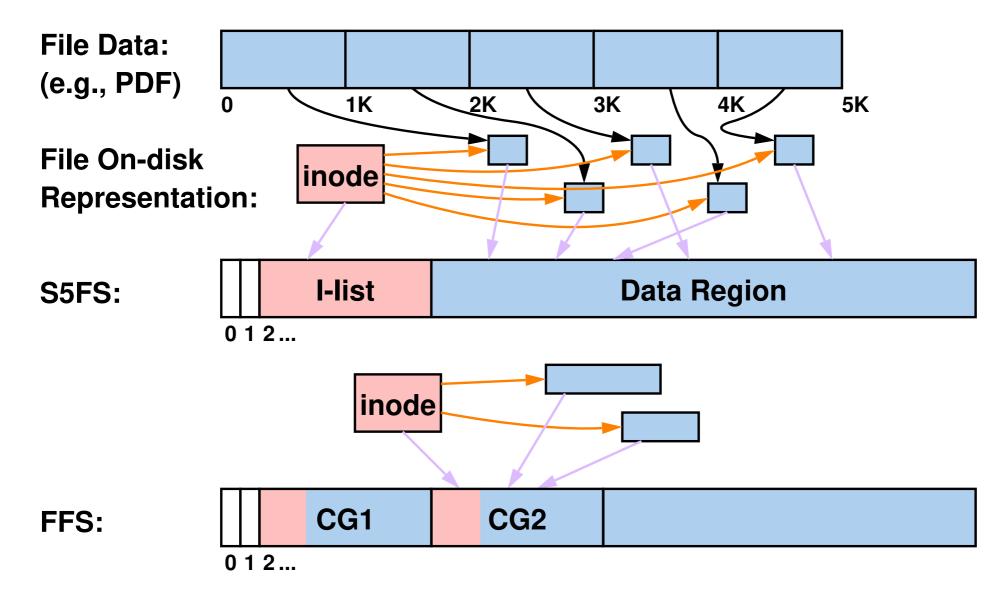




Can We Get To 100% Of Disk Transfer Capacity?

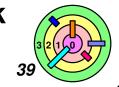


What A File Look Like in S5FS & FFS



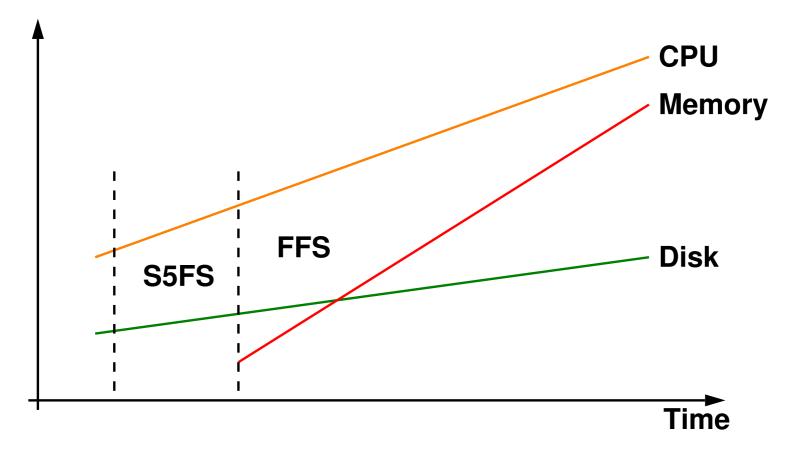


Using all the tricks in FFS, we can only get to 50% of the disk transfer capacity



CPU, Memory, Disk Speeds Over Time



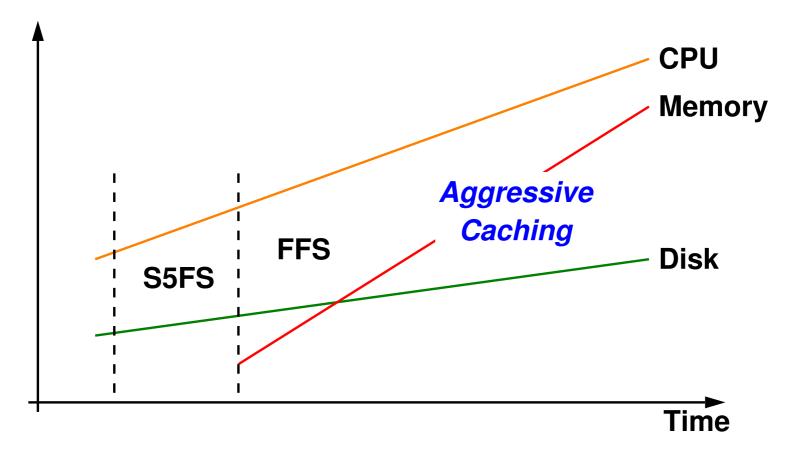


- this figure is not drawn to scale

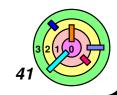


CPU, Memory, Disk Speeds Over Time





- this figure is not drawn to scale



A Different Approach



We have lots of primary memory

- cache the entire disk in memory
 - if disk is too big, need to cache intelligently
 - may be enough to cache only files being accesses



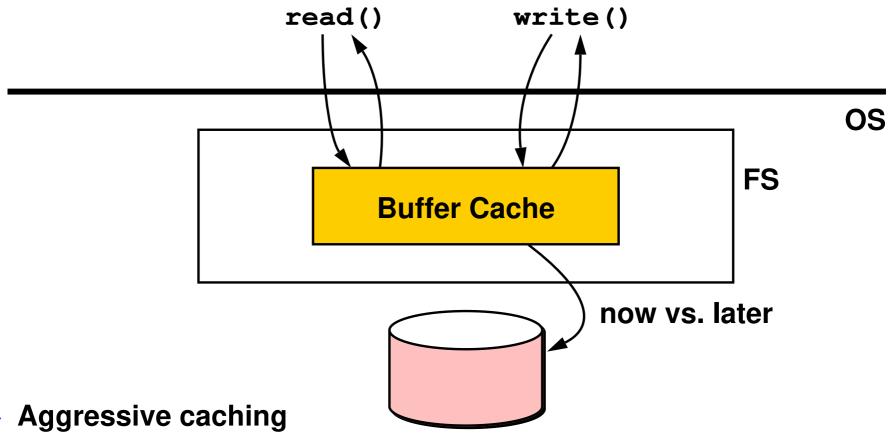
Read time from disk doesn't matter

- once a disk block is brought into memory, keep it in memory
 - next read of this block will cost you 0 in disk access time
- with a high hit rate, performance can get > 100% of disk capacity
 - e.g., with a 90% hit rate, the disk will appear to be 10 times faster; with a 99% hit rate, the disk will appear to be 100 times faster



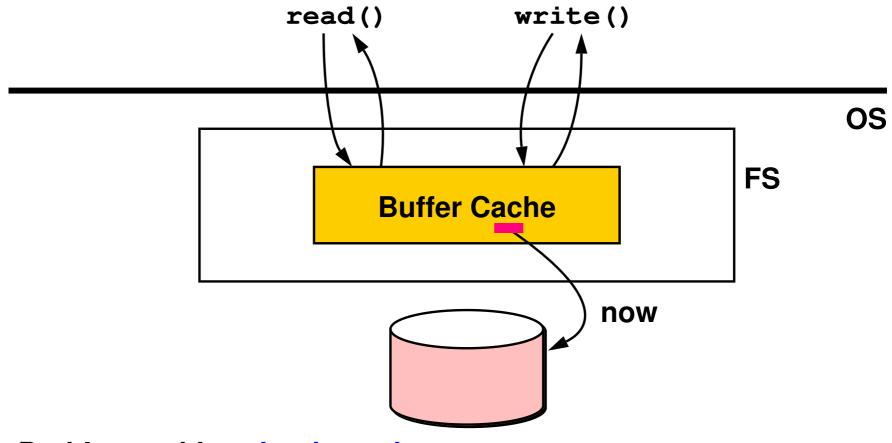
Time for writes does matter





- most read and write will have a cache hit
 - o can perform > 100% of the disk transfer capacity for reads
 - o if buffer cache is used, read performance no longer an issue
- for writes, need to update the disk
 - write-through vs. write-back



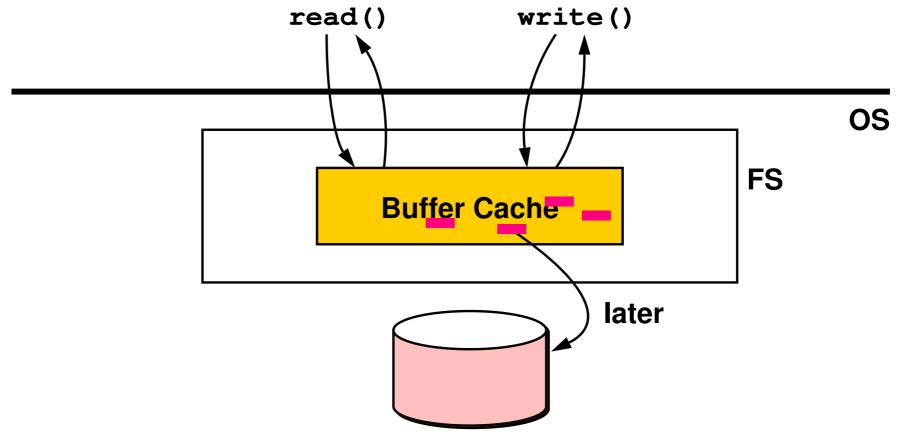




Problems with write-through

slow

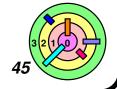


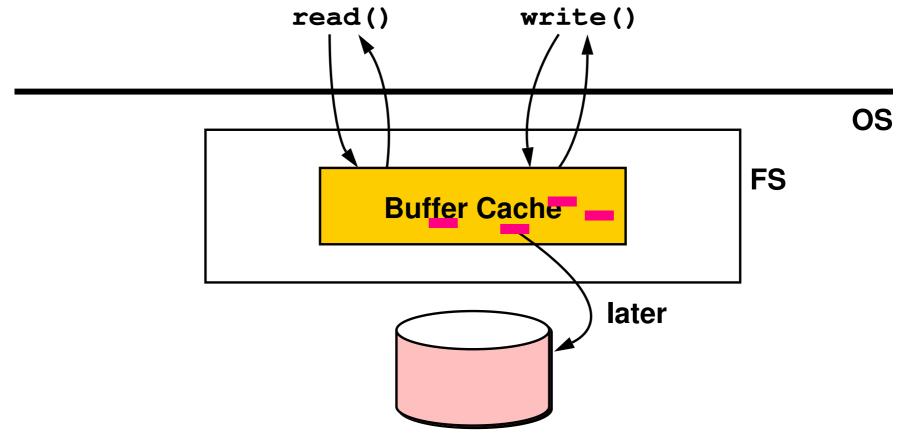




Problems with write-back

- writes to the disk can wait, may be for quite a while
 - Ionger the wait, higher the risk





- Need a file system optimized for writing!
- how?
 - you organize the disk as a very long log
 - also need to address the "risk factor"

